



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
COMMUNITY AND FAMILY HEALTH  
HIV PREVENTION AND EDUCATION SERVICES  
Post Office Box 47830, Olympia, Washington 98504-7830

January 30, 2006

To: Interested Persons

From: John F. Peppert, HIV Prevention, Department of Health  
Craig D. McLaughlin, Executive Director, State Board of Health

Subject: Draft 2 of Proposed Permanent Rule Revisions for Names Retention of  
Asymptomatic HIV Case Reports and Expanded HIV Laboratory Test Reporting  
—Washington Administrative Code 246-101

Overview

The State Board of Health rules are being revised to allow 1) retention of names of asymptomatic HIV case reports and 2) laboratory reporting of all CD4 and viral load test results, regardless of level. These permanent rule revisions are being proposed for two reasons:

Maintain federal funding for the care and treatment of persons with HIV or AIDS

Communications from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) between July and September of 2005 clarified its policy “to accept only HIV case surveillance data collected, reported, and maintained in state/local HIV/AIDS surveillance systems using confidential name-based methods.” This HIV/AIDS case report data will be used to determine Ryan White CARE Act formula funding for the care and treatment of individuals living with HIV/AIDS.

Improve HIV Reporting and Reduce Burden on Laboratories

The Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) has recommended laboratory reporting of all viral load test results (detectable and undetectable) and reporting all levels of CD4+ T-lymphocyte counts and percentages to ensure reporting of prevalent cases quickly and efficiently into the surveillance system. The CDC has made the same recommendation. The change should reduce the burden on laboratories of having to sort test results by which are “reportable” versus those that are not.

Current Status of Proposed Revisions and Stakeholder Meetings to Review Draft 2

The Board and the Department of Health will seek comments on *Draft 2 of Proposed Changes*. Two stakeholder meetings have been scheduled so that Board and DOH staff can receive comments on *Draft 2 of Proposed Changes* from constituents throughout the state. Please see the attached Stakeholder Meeting Announcement for meeting dates, times and locations.

By February 13, 2005, a copy of *Draft 2 of Proposed Changes* will be available at:  
[http://www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/HIV\\_AIDS/Prev\\_Edu/HIV\\_Policy\\_Review.htm](http://www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/HIV_AIDS/Prev_Edu/HIV_Policy_Review.htm)

To obtain a printed copy of these materials *Draft 2 of Proposed Changes* please contact Harla Eichenberger at 360-236-3424 or at [harla.eichenberger@doh.wa.gov](mailto:harla.eichenberger@doh.wa.gov).

The Stakeholder Meeting Announcement includes directions for submitting comments regarding *Draft 2 of Proposed Changes*.

For those unable to attend one of the meetings, written comments received by February 28, 2006 will be considered in preparing the Department's final *Draft 3 of Proposed Changes*, which will be published as proposed permanent rules and will be presented to the Board for possible adoption in June 2006.

Attachment

# Names Retention of Asymptomatic HIV Case Reports and Expanded HIV Laboratory Test Reporting

## STAKEHOLDER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

**Meeting Purpose:** Gain community, public health, and other perspectives on draft 2 of the proposed changes to state rules designed to:

1. Comply with CDC reporting requirements for names retention of reported HIV cases
2. Modify reporting requirements of certain laboratory HIV tests to ensure reporting of prevalent cases quickly and efficiently into the surveillance system

Rules considered in this review include:

- WAC 246-101-201 Notifiable conditions and laboratories
- WAC 246-101-520 Special conditions -- AIDS and HIV
- WAC 246-101-635 Special conditions -- AIDS and HIV

Other sections of chapters 246-100 and 246-101 WAC may be added to this review as necessary.

Copies of the letters from the CDC and CSTE including requirements and recommendations and *Draft 2 of Proposed Changes* are available at:

[http://www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/HIV\\_AIDS/Prev\\_Edu/HIV\\_Policy\\_Review.htm](http://www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/HIV_AIDS/Prev_Edu/HIV_Policy_Review.htm)

To obtain a printed copy of these materials or *Draft 2 of Proposed Changes* please contact Harla Eichenberger at 360-236-3424 or at [harla.eichenberger@doh.wa.gov](mailto:harla.eichenberger@doh.wa.gov).

### Meeting dates, times and locations are presented below.

Date: **February 22, 2006**  
Time: 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
Location: Seattle Central Community  
College  
Fourth Floor, Room 4156  
Broadway Edison Bldg.  
(Main)  
Seattle, WA

Date: **February 24, 2006**  
Time: 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm  
Location: WestCoast Ridpath Hotel  
Terrace C Room (above the  
Lobby)  
515 W. Sprague Avenue  
Spokane, WA

Meeting locations will be barrier free. If you need special accommodations, please contact Harla Eichenberger by February 10, 2006 at 360-236-3424.

### Written Comments

Comments received by February 28, 2006 will be considered. Comments may be sent by regular mail, fax or email to:

HIV Rule Review, Post Office Box 47840, Olympia, Washington 98504-7840

fax: 360-236-3400, Attention: HIV Rule Review

email: [john.peppert@doh.wa.gov](mailto:john.peppert@doh.wa.gov)

For e-mail submissions, please include "HIV Rule Review" in the Subject line.

